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Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation: reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme

Annual report of the Executive Director of the World Food Programme for 2005

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the Economic and Social Council the annual report of the Executive Director of the World Food Programme for 2005, as approved by the Board of the Programme in its decision 2006/EB.1/2, which is also attached.

* E/2006/100.



Decision 2005/EB.1/2 of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme adopted by the Board at its first regular session of 2006 (20-23 February 2006)

Annual report for 2005 to the Economic and Social Council and the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

The Board approved the annual report for 2005 to the Economic and Social Council and the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) (WFP/EB.1/2006/4/Rev.1). In accordance with its decision 2004/EB.A/11 of 24 May 2004, the Board requested that the annual report be forwarded to the Economic and Social Council and to the FAO Council, along with the Board's decisions and recommendations for 2005 and the present decision.

20 February 2006

**Annual report for 2005 to the ECOSOC and the FAO Council, including
implementation of the reform programme of the Secretary-General and the
triennial comprehensive policy review**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The aim of this report is to give the Board a comprehensive picture of WFP's response to United Nations system initiatives and resolutions. WFP acted in 2005 to improve its partnerships with United Nations agencies, other international organizations and civil-society groups in three significant ways: (i) it contributed as a team member at the global, regional and country levels to the work of major inter-agency coordinating bodies in humanitarian and development affairs; (ii) it pursued operational and advocacy cooperation with United Nations and non-governmental organization partners to enhance joint contributions to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and WFP's five Strategic Objectives; and (iii) it advocated for the interests of hungry and vulnerable people in major international conferences and meetings.

Major achievements of WFP's engagement in inter-agency coordinating mechanisms in 2005 included: (i) endorsement by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee of new arrangements for addressing major gaps in current international humanitarian response; (ii) further progress on simplification and harmonization of development programme cooperation through the United Nations Development Group; and (iii) significant contributions to the operation of United Nations common services, particularly the WFP-managed United Nations Joint Logistics Centre and Humanitarian Air Service.

WFP's operational and advocacy partnerships with United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations focused on meeting the needs of refugees and beneficiaries in food security, emergency response, nutrition, HIV/AIDS and education. Significant achievements included: (i) signing a new Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations Children's Fund in July 2005; (ii) expanding cooperation in HIV/AIDS-related programming with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS co-sponsors; (iii) increased participation in national poverty-reduction strategy processes, often in collaboration with the World Bank; (iv) increased cooperation with the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in needs assessment, joint advocacy on behalf of refugee population and emergency response; and (v) a consultation in October 2005 with major international non-governmental organization partners entitled "Ending Child Hunger in Partnership".

The September World Summit was the main event on the 2005 international conference agenda; WFP was active with its Rome agency partners in ensuring that food security, hunger reduction – particularly for children – rural development and expansion of school feeding were highlighted in the outcome document. WFP also provided significant input on disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness to the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Kobe, Japan, in January 2005.

This report is prepared in accordance with the streamlined corporate reporting to the Board and WFP parent bodies (WFP/EB.A/2004/5-F) approved at the 2004 Annual Session. The structure is consistent with the standard Economic and Social Council format for annual reporting used by United Nations funds and programmes, with a focus on implementation of the provisions of the 2004 General Assembly resolution on the Triennial Comprehensive Policy Review of Operational Activities for Development. The format also takes into account comments by the Board in its discussion of the 2004 Annual Report and consultations with the Bureau in September 2005. The timing of the submission of this report to the Board's First Regular Session of 2006 makes it impossible to include complete statistical information for the whole of calendar year 2005. More complete statistical information will be available in the 2005 Annual Performance Report submitted to the Board at its Annual Session.

SECTION 1. STRUCTURES AND MECHANISMS

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)

1. In 2005, the IASC focused on improved humanitarian response, culminating in a special heads-of-agency meeting in September that agreed on a cluster lead-agency system designed to fill current "gaps" in areas of humanitarian response such as water and sanitation, shelter and protection of internally displaced people (IDPs). WFP provided significant leadership in this reform process and agreed to be the cluster lead agency for inter-agency emergency logistics and to assume primary responsibility for certain aspects of emergency telecommunications. WFP's co-chairmanship of the IASC sub-working group on preparedness and contingency planning resulted in innovative inter-agency initiatives such as quarterly humanitarian early-warning reports and the Humanitarian Early-Warning Service (HEWS) web page, which is the first global "one-stop shop" for early-warning information for all natural hazards and for socio-political developments, providing systematic, credible and real-time early-warning information online.

Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP)

2. WFP continued to be active in inter-agency implementation of the CAP and its needs analysis framework (NAF). WFP was the largest appealing agency in the 2005 CAP, accounting for 40 percent of overall requirements; as of October 2005, contributions to WFP amounted to nearly 45 percent of the total. WFP worked with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to lead the food-security sector NAF in Burundi, the Occupied Palestinian Territories and Uganda. The working groups produced clear analyses of needs and priorities to provide a basis for the food security analysis of the Common Humanitarian Action Plan (CHAP). WFP's food-security assessments and vulnerability analysis and mapping (VAM) reports also provided significant contributions to the NAF and CHAP food-security analysis in Côte d'Ivoire and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). WFP and FAO will work with food-security sector working groups to review lessons learned from the 2005 CAP NAF as part of the larger IASC review of 2005 challenges and recommendations for improvements for 2006.

United Nations Development Group (UNDG)

3. WFP's involvement in the UNDG Executive Committee is the core of its United Nations development reform efforts, particularly on issues related to the Secretary-General's agenda outlined in his document "In Larger Freedom" and in the Triennial Comprehensive Policy Review (TCPR) resolution. The UNDG programme and management groups made progress in addressing the coherence of programmes at the country level. There has been less focus on guidelines and greater emphasis on ensuring that harmonized procedures are applied at the country level to achieve results, support national development plans and reduce transaction costs for partners. UNDG has also been examining the role of Resident Coordinators (RCs),

follow-up to the World Summit, preparation of Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) based on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and common cash-transfer modalities.

4. WFP also helped to organize two UNDG-related workshops in Rome: (i) the Roundtable on Simplification of the Common Country Programming Process, in which WFP as vice-chair of the UNDG Programme Group hosted a roundtable that led to recommendations for a radically simplified common country programming process; and (ii) a training session for United Nations staff on DevInfo technology, hosted by WFP.

The Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs (ECHA)

5. In 2005, ECHA was increasingly used by the Emergency Relief Coordinator to focus the United Nations system on policy issues and country-specific situations. WFP contributed significantly to ECHA's work to clarify operational issues related to integrated missions, which resulted in a decision by the Secretary-General's Policy Committee to update the Note of Guidance to Special Representatives of the Secretary General with regard to the interface between military, political and humanitarian actors in integrated missions. WFP also took a lead in highlighting country discussions that helped to improve coordinated United Nations positions on important operations such as those in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and Zimbabwe.

SECTION 2. FUNDING AND RESOURCES

6. WFP's fundraising efforts aim to ensure increased and stable funding from major donors, to broaden the support base, to attract new donors including private corporations and individuals, and to encourage occasional donors to become regular contributors. WFP's fundraising strategy will be driven by the objective of increasing the impact of donations through increased flexibility and predictability, which implies a larger proportion of multilateral contributions, more cash donations, smart twinning arrangements and fewer restrictions. To that effect, the WFP Membership recently approved two strategy papers¹ that are the basis of WFP's approach to funding development and transition activities. It is recommended that in the next biennium efforts be made to reach a target of 30 percent of contributions provided multilaterally without restrictions and preferably in cash.

7. Actual 2005 contributions as at the end of September 2005 amounted to US\$2.1 billion. The 2005 forecast as of mid-October for the entire year 2005 is US\$2.8 billion.

Private Sector

8. In addition to increasing private donations by 87 percent over 2004 in the first ten months of 2005, WFP instituted structural changes and created policies and procedures to ensure that its work with private donors was implemented according to United Nations standards. WFP

¹ "New Partnerships to Meet Rising Needs – Expanding the WFP Donor Base" (WFP/EB.3/2004/4-C) and "Funding for Effectiveness" (WFP/EB.2/2005/5-B).

increased its work with the private sector in Asia, Latin America, the United Arab Emirates and the United States.

9. New private donors emerged early in the year with an outpouring of support for WFP's emergency work in the Asian tsunami crisis. Collectively, the private sector donated more than US\$57 million, providing over 20 percent of the US\$256 million food-relief appeal for tsunami survivors.

10. WFP's first corporate partner, global mail and logistics company TNT, once again confirmed its extraordinary commitment by placing its expertise and transport network at WFP's disposal to move food, material and staff to the affected countries, an unparalleled instance of in-kind support amounting to nearly US\$3 million. The American Red Cross instantly gave an overwhelming US\$50 million for emergency food aid. Other donors such as the Boston Consulting Group, Spencer Stuart, Nokia, Danone, Kraft, the International Rugby Board and Unilever provided support in cash and gifts in kind.

11. Thanks in large part to their positive experience with WFP in the tsunami response, many new donors proceeded to fund emergencies in Mali, Niger and Pakistan. New longer-term relationships were established with Citigroup, Banca di Roma, Danone, DSM, Ernst & Young, Management Center Europe, PepsiCo, Unilever and Veolia among others.

SECTION 3. IMPLEMENTATION OF UNITED NATIONS REFORM MEASURES

12. 2005 was an active year for United Nations reform. WFP contributed in a number of areas: in addition to the IASC humanitarian reform process discussed previously, WFP supported inter-agency initiatives mandated by the TCPR, including programme harmonization, improvement of the RC system and United Nations common premises and services.

Harmonization of Programmes

13. In 2005 WFP strengthened its capacity in engaging with PRSPs and sector-wide approaches (SWAPs) by participating in inter-agency initiatives and developing guidance for its country offices. Although hunger has not been given high priority in PRSPs, WFP country offices have been ensuring that hunger is prioritized, especially when new PRSPs or SWAPs are prepared. In Sierra Leone, WFP helped to place food security as a top priority in the PRSP, which demonstrates the value of engagement in the process. All new country programmes (CPs) approved by the Board in 2004 and 2005 aligned WFP's programmes with national priorities in linking with the PRSPs and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) as overall frameworks.

14. Numerous donors supported the Government of Mozambique through direct budget support and common funding pools in several sectors. The United Nations country team (UNCT) has, with the involvement of WFP, agreed to align the 2007–2009 UNDAF with PRSP II to harmonize the United Nations planning cycle with that of the Government.

15. In Afghanistan, WFP was a leader in the UNCT in starting joint programming. WFP headed the initiative by obtaining the agreement of several United Nations agencies and the Presidency of Afghanistan on a joint programme called the Green Afghanistan Initiative (GAIN), after which other United Nations agencies were encouraged to do the same. This led to three other joint programmes in literacy, health in schools and maternal mortality.

16. In the framework of the southern Africa Regional Directors' Team (RDT), the drive to align United Nations programming with national processes in response to the impact of HIV/AIDS on food security and governance was critical. WFP and FAO are leading joint programming efforts related to food security.

Implementation of the Common Country Assessment (CCA) and UNDAF

17. The CCA and UNDAF have been revisited with the objective of simplifying the analytical and planning processes, ensuring greater focus on development results and directing the contributions of UNDG agencies to supporting national development plans in a single centralized format focused on results. The UNDAF results matrix summarizes the United Nations approach in its focus on outcomes related to the MDGs.

18. WFP continues to participate in the UNDAF Quality Support and Assurance working group to ensure that lessons are learned and recorded for UNCTs to refer to as they begin the CCA/UNDAF process. A review of implementation instruments, which is being used for the first time since the simplification and harmonization (S&H) process was established, has revealed further possible simplification of the Common Country Programming process, including the Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) and Annual Work Plans (AWPs), as well as identifying opportunities for joint programmes.

The Resident Coordinator System

19. WFP supported activities aimed at refining the RC assessment and selection process by working to obtain a gender balance in the RC pool. In 2005, WFP nominated five candidates, two of whom were women, for the RC assessment. Two WFP staff were selected in 2005 as RCs, bringing the number of WFP staff in RC positions to four. WFP has also been participating in the UNDG RC Issues Group (RCIG), which has been developing an accountability framework for RCs and UNCTs through improving the RC/UNCT performance appraisal systems by linking it to the UNDAF results matrix.

United Nations Common Services and Premises

⇒ Common Services

20. During 2005, the six new regional inter-agency teams provided common services workshops and other technical interventions to foster joint operational arrangements in 28 countries. WFP shares the costs of two regional common services advisers in Africa;

selected WFP staff have been trained as resource persons, providing expertise to WFP on an ad hoc basis.

21. The objective of a common services management system is to achieve 10 percent annual savings of administrative budgets in countries with a substantial United Nations presence. In 2005, a web-based system was designed to support in-country management, transparency and accountability to measure the quantitative and qualitative results of the initiatives for reporting to UNCTs and the undg. This system, successfully piloted in Ecuador, Nigeria, the Philippines and Zimbabwe, will be rolled out shortly to 22 other countries.

⇒ *Common Premises*

22. WFP uses common premises in 22 of the 30 countries where it is present and where there are United Nations houses. Country office moves into and out of common premises are funded through WFP's contributions to United Nations reform, which totalled US\$800,000 for the last biennium. This funding was provided for the design or rehabilitation of common premises in Algeria, Armenia, Mauritania and Zambia, a building assessment in Bhutan and participation in the undg management group. WFP continues to encourage its country offices to move into common premises where financial, logistical and security considerations favour it. The advantages include cost savings in infrastructure and administrative services and in creating an environment conducive to greater collaboration among United Nations agencies. The disadvantages are limited flexibility in responding to WFP's changing needs for office space and loss of direct control over premises; WFP, more than any other Ex-Com agency, is subjected to significant changes in operational tempo and resulting increases or decreases in office space requirements.

23. However, security and protection concerns about grouping many United Nations staff in the same building dictate that a thorough security risk assessment be carried out prior to a decision by WFP to join in a new or existing United Nations house; if the outcome is negative, WFP will decline to participate, even if all other indicators are favourable.

⇒ *Joint Offices*

24. The common services and premises efforts have come together in the concept of a joint office, the first pilot of which is scheduled to go live in Cape Verde in January 2006. WFP supports these efforts with a view to enhancing United Nations operational efficiency, but mechanisms are required to accommodate WFP's need to grow or shrink suddenly in response to emergencies. There are also questions as to whether the substantial time and resources invested in harmonizing different agencies' administrative requirements in order to begin the Cape Verde joint office pilot will produce sufficient gains and efficiencies to be cost-effective in the long-term.

United Nations Joint Logistics Centre (UNJLC) and Other Common Logistical Support

25. The UNJLC is an inter-agency facility started in 2002 that is mandated to coordinate and optimize the logistics capabilities of humanitarian organizations in large-scale emergencies. WFP is responsible for its administrative and financial management. A synthesis review carried out on major field operations and core unit activities was approved by the Board in November 2005.

26. One of the main challenges has been decreasing donor support for the UNJLC core unit in Rome, which initiates and supports field operations. Insufficient funding for its activities reduces UNJLC's ability to improve operational response through rapid deployment of staff.

27. In 2005, the UNJLC provided support to the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team deployments in Indonesia and Sri Lanka in response to the Indian Ocean tsunami. It phased out in Sri Lanka in April and Indonesia in September. UNJLC also provided assistance to the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) in DRC and continued coordination of the non-food item deliveries and management of the non-food pipeline in Darfur, Sudan. UNJLC deployed staff in response to the Pakistan earthquake and provided the humanitarian community with logistics coordination and information-management services.

28. WFP was requested by the United Nations Office of the Recovery Coordinator (UNORC) in Indonesia to provide a common sea service for shipment of up to 600,000 mt of reconstruction and shelter materials in Aceh. As a result, WFP is undertaking emergency rehabilitation of ports destroyed during the Tsunami and is now managing the largest ever humanitarian sea operation on behalf of UN Agencies, the IFRC, NGOs and the government.

United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)

29. During 2005, UNHAS provided assistance in response to major emergencies in Indonesia, Niger and Pakistan in addition to ongoing operations in Afghanistan, Angola, Burundi, Chad, DRC, Ivory Coast, Somalia, Sudan and Tanzania.

30. As of 30 September 2005, the 77 aircraft and heavy-lift helicopters managed by UNHAS had transported 247,000 passengers and 210,000 mt of cargo for United Nations agencies and over 200 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in support of relief operations. In October, UNHAS provided immediate support after the earthquake in Pakistan with a massive operation involving 15 civilian and 7 military heavy-lift aircraft operating from five bases.

31. Several audit missions, including a comprehensive review by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), were conducted in 2005 to assist UNHAS in enhancing the quality and safety of its operations.

SECTION 4. COLLABORATION WITH PARTNERS

32. Partnerships with governments, United Nations organizations and international and national non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are crucial to the work of WFP. In 2004, WFP collaborated with eight United Nations agencies, the World Bank, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and 1,942 NGOs – 223 international and 1,719 national – in 75 countries. Statistical data on partnerships for 2005 will be available in the Annual Performance Report to the Board at its 2006 Annual Session. Partnership-strengthening activities in 2005 increasingly focused on partners with whom WFP can most effectively collaborate to achieve MDGs and its Strategic Objectives.

Rome-Based Agencies – FAO and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

33. WFP continued to work with FAO and IFAD, especially in situations where the twin-track approach of combining direct food aid with other development interventions could be applied. Highlights of this collaboration include:

- Junior farmer field and life school (JFFLS) projects in Mozambique started in 2004 with 24 schools; plans for scale-up include 50 new sites. This is an innovative and sustainable new approach to securing the future livelihoods and long-term food security of orphans and children affected by HIV/AIDS. After its success in Mozambique, JFFLS expanded to other countries in the region: in Namibia, FAO expanded from one pilot to six sites for 30 children each, with financial support from WFP and Finland. FAO, WFP and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) – the newest JFFLS partner – received funding for start-up in Swaziland, which will be implemented at six sites. In Zambia, WFP helps to ensure that the basic nutritional needs of orphans are met, in partnership with a local child care centre.
- WFP and FAO collaborated in fighting the locust infestation that hit parts of Africa. WFP supported FAO by transporting pesticides to Burkina Faso, Eritrea, and Niger in WFP aircraft based in Brindisi with funds provided by the Italian Government. WFP also based a senior logistics officer at FAO headquarters.
- WFP collaborated with FAO in supporting countries implementing the Home Grown School Feeding Programme (HGSFP) launched in September 2005 and led by the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). This is one of the flagship programmes of NEPAD: it seeks to increase food supply and reduce hunger. Nigeria is one of the ten African countries identified for piloting this initiative; WFP will be providing expertise in implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Negotiations with Ghana are under way.
- In Kenya, WFP and FAO are collaborating on the development of disaster-management and food-security decision-support tools for the Government. Partners include the United Nations

Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank, the Famine Early-Warning System Network (FEWS-NET) and UNICEF.

- FAO and WFP joint crop and food supply assessment missions continue to play a major role in humanitarian food-security interventions. In 2004 and early 2005, joint missions alerted the humanitarian community to the impending food crisis in Niger and helped estimate the impact of the tsunami in Aceh, Indonesia; 11 assessments were fielded in 2005 in southern Africa, Ethiopia, Niger, Sudan and Indonesia. Constant efforts are made to improve methods and transparency, including encouraging the participation of donors and observers.
- In India, where WFP is hosting an IFAD office in New Dehli, IFAD co-funds an eight-year WFP food-for-work (FFW) programme that focuses on marginal households, women, landless people, hill farmers and tribal groups. In Tanzania, WFP's collaboration with IFAD concentrates on constructing and rehabilitating 160 km of irrigation canals. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR), WFP and IFAD continued to assist food-insecure households in transition under the Rural Livelihoods Improvement Programme: WFP provides rice for asset creation through FFW.
- The Rome-based agencies, which are co-founders of the International Alliance Against Hunger (IAAH), co-signed a letter in October inviting all staff deployed in the field to support IAAH and national alliances in their countries. As of September 2005, there were 19 active national alliances; 15 more were being organized.

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

34. WFP's response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic is characterized by collaboration with co-sponsors and partners in the global HIV/AIDS response. Highlights of WFP's inter-agency activities as a UNAIDS co-sponsor include:

- Rapid assessment, analysis and action planning (RAAAP) for orphans and vulnerable children, in partnership with UNAIDS, UNICEF and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). WFP has been active in these assessments, which cover 17 countries in sub-Saharan Africa, mapping vulnerability, assessing needs, resource availability and organizational capacities, and developing policies and programmes. The first phase, involving basic information on nine countries in southern Africa, was completed in mid-2004; it is continuing in 2005 with increased emphasis on costing of interventions and monitoring and evaluation of national plans where additional countries will be added to the exercise.
- Care and treatment. In partnership with governments, NGOs and other United Nations agencies, WFP worked to expand access to food and nutritional support for food-insecure people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) and their families, and to support programmes to prevent HIV transmission from mother to child. In Kenya, WFP provides food assistance to 63,000 people a year. WFP also supports anti-retroviral therapy (ART) programmes in Burkina Faso, the Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, India, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Swaziland and Zambia.

- Prevention education took place in 26 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Central America, targeting 2.3 million people. Prevention education and awareness is integrated in WFP's school feeding, FFW, food-for-training (FFT) and mother-and-child health (MCH) programmes. In Swaziland, WFP is training 360 women as community counsellors in health and personal security, in coordination with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); the programme emphasizes HIV/AIDS prevention and sensitivity to potential sexual exploitation and abuse, and promotes expanded awareness of HIV/AIDS in a country with the highest prevalence rate in the world.
- In Malawi, WFP launched an innovative project with its partner TNT, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Transport in which two wellness centres were established in the WFP warehouse. The facility provides information, education and counselling on prevention of HIV and sexually transmitted diseases, diagnosis, free treatment and condoms. The project targets truck drivers, warehouse staff and commercial sex workers.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

35. Following the World Education Forum in Dakar in April 2000, WFP participated in the Education for All (EFA) movement under the leadership of UNESCO. In July 2005, WFP attended the sixth meeting in Paris, where food for education (FFE) was recognized as an important strategy for the education of disadvantaged groups, particularly rural populations. WFP is also a member of the UNESCO-led Inter-Agency Task Team on HIV/AIDS and Education, which focuses on mobilizing commitment for prevention education and promotes exchange of information. In Egypt, a pilot initiative was recently launched in cooperation with UNESCO to support the rehabilitation of street children.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

36. WFP and UNHCR continued their collaboration in 2005 to meet the needs of 3 million refugees in 29 countries. A joint work plan was agreed that focuses on operations, fundraising, advocacy and joint training. In their MOU, the agencies agreed that WFP would, on a pilot basis and at its own expense, take over responsibility for food distribution in Kenya, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Uganda and Zambia. Joint evaluations of the pilots were completed in 2005, and the findings will be submitted to the Board in 2006.

37. In view of the major role of WFP and UNHCR at the country level, joint donor and press briefings were organized to sensitize donor representatives to the plight of refugees. This has been effective in, for example, Tanzania and Zambia.

38. In 2005, nine joint assessment missions (JAMs) were undertaken in Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, DRC, Ghana, Tanzania, Uganda and Yemen. Both agencies continued to train counterpart staff in joint assessments; workshops were organized in Dar-es-Salaam in April, Dakar in July and Nairobi in November.

39. WFP and UNHCR worked with UNICEF to identify strategies to integrate food and nutrition programmes with HIV/AIDS interventions. The resulting manual, published early in

2005, *WFP–UNHCR Integration of HIV/AIDS Activities with Food and Nutrition Support in Refugee Settings: Specific Programme Strategies*, proposes 20 ways of linking relevant activities. Implementation in Uganda and Zambia started in October 2005; an evaluation will be conducted in January 2006.

UNICEF

40. WFP's Strategic Plan identifies partnership with UNICEF as a priority; the agencies are natural partners to confront the challenges of child hunger in a coordinated and effective manner. An updated MOU was signed on 1 July 2005. While it reflects the collaboration in emergencies and rehabilitation in addition to transition and development contexts, it focuses on three areas: (i) increasing enrolment and retention of young girls' primary schools; (ii) reducing malnutrition; and (iii) reducing vulnerability to, and the risk and burden of HIV/AIDS especially for orphans and vulnerable children in emergency, transition and development contexts. It also emphasizes cooperation in combating sexual exploitation and abuse, and affirms cooperation in emergency preparedness, VAM, emergency food security assessments, logistics and telecommunications. The following are highlights of WFP/UNICEF collaboration:

- **Essential Package interventions in primary schools.** UNICEF supports provision of water and latrines in 30 countries and hygiene education in 23 countries. De-worming of school children has been carried out in 31 countries, mostly in collaboration with UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO). School gardens are implemented in collaboration with FAO in 11 countries, including Cambodia, DRC and Pakistan.
- WFP's regional initiative with partners in basic education in West Africa, the Sahel Alliance, embraces the concept of the Essential Learning Package and seeks a massive mobilization of resources for education, including school feeding. There is a strong sense of programme ownership, which has facilitated joint monitoring exercises, but challenges still face both agencies, especially in harmonizing targeting criteria, designing joint programmes and mapping common areas.
- **Prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT)** programmes in the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Guinea Bissau, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Rwanda, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe are being implemented jointly with UNICEF. In Mali, WFP provides nutritional support for pregnant HIV-positive women enrolled in PMTCT programmes, in partnership with the Government, UNICEF and others.
- In Ethiopia, WFP is collaborating with UNICEF on a joint **child survival** programme "Enhanced Outreach Strategy for Child Survival Initiatives", which targets malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women. In support of the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission and the Federal Ministry of Health, WFP provides supplementary feeding, nutrition education and capacity-building for women to manage the food component.
- **Emergency assessments.** In collaboration with UNICEF, FAO, the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Government of Sudan, WFP undertook the

largest food security and nutritional assessment since the start of the crisis in Darfur, Sudan. The survey revealed dramatic improvement in the nutritional situation, and also highlighted the precarious nature of food security in Darfur.

WHO

41. In 2005, WFP continued its strong collaboration with WHO, focusing on areas related to nutrition, HIV/AIDS, de-worming and joint programming in emergencies. In the response to the tsunami, WFP collaborated with WHO in the Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART) initiative.

42. WFP continues to support WHO's roll-out of ART through the 3x5 initiative and is working with WHO and UNICEF to develop guidelines related to food assistance in HIV care and treatment programmes. In April, WFP participated in a WHO technical consultation on nutrition and HIV/AIDS in South Africa, which reviewed scientific evidence related to nutrition and HIV/AIDS and discussed its programme and policy implications.

43. In 2005, WHO continued to provide technical assistance for WFP-supported de-worming programmes through school feeding. In targeted de-worming for 6.1 million children in Afghanistan, WFP helped to organize training for 9,000 teachers on distributing the tablets, and on basic health, hygiene and life skills to be passed on to the children. In Haiti, the de-worming campaign covered 500,000 children in the first phase in May 2005. The challenge is to continue de-worming activities systematically to cover all WFP-assisted school feeding programmes, which will require continuous support from donors and cooperation with governments to integrate the programme into national de-worming programmes.

World Bank

44. WFP carried out a baseline survey of its relationship with the World Bank at the country level. The results show that 11 country offices have formal agreements with the World Bank; 13 countries have agreements in preparation. The collaboration focuses on preparation of PRSPs, FFE, food aid to HIV/AIDS-infected people and their families, and post-disaster reconstruction, for example in Indonesia. A recent initiative was the use of World Bank fast-track funds in support of school feeding, for example in Mauritania. WFP is strengthening cooperation to address food insecurity and poverty, for example in Niger.

45. WFP continued to maintain a senior staff member in Washington as a representative to the Bretton Woods Institutions (BWI); the World Bank seconded three of its senior staff to WFP.

NGOs

46. In 2004, 90 percent of country offices collaborated with NGOs. WFP worked to increase involvement with NGO partners at the project-design stage and to seek more partnerships in cases where WFP can complement NGOs.

47. In 2005, a review of the 2004 cost-sharing agreements was undertaken in Mozambique and Sudan. WFP's relationship with NGOs is increasingly transparent and payments have

become more timely, but WFP and cooperating NGO partners agreed to enhance the guidance material and make minor amendments to the Field Level Agreement template, and to review training options.

48. WFP published a handbook entitled *How to Work with WFP* to enhance NGO partners' understanding of WFP's expectations and responsibilities.

49. The "Walk the World" initiative encouraged the participation of NGOs for the first time. Contributions from the Rome walk were used to support the WFP school feeding programme in Somalia in collaboration with two Italian NGOs — the *Comitato di Coordinamento delle Organizzazioni per il Servizio Volontario* (COSV) and *Acqua per la Vita*.

50. WFP's annual consultation with NGO partners in October 2005 brought together 25 participating organizations. It was the tenth anniversary of the event and was dedicated to the theme "Ending Child Hunger in Partnership".

SECTION 5. FOLLOW-UP TO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

2005 World Summit

51. The outcome document of the World Summit on 14–16 September in New York contained a comprehensive framework for integrated United Nations system-wide follow-up to major international conferences. An unambiguous commitment by all governments to achieve the MDGs by 2015, it calls for additional action in three areas of significant WFP programme activity: (i) expansion of school meal programmes, using home-grown food where possible; (ii) eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition, particularly as they affect children; and (iii) improving United Nations system-wide humanitarian-response capacity. The wording of the outcome document regarding the importance of food security and rural agricultural development was a result of cooperation between the Rome-based agencies in United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the drafting process in preparation for the Summit. WFP's Strategic Plan (2006–2009) is based on ways in which WFP can best support achievement of the MDGs and thus continue to be active in summit follow-up on all three issues through its own programmes and through collective action with its United Nations, NGO and governmental partners.

Paris High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness

52. WFP continues to be involved in Paris High-Level Forum follow-up with undg partner agencies in establishing baselines and targets for 11 of the agreed key indicators. Guidance was provided for all WFP country directors, who were encouraged to support the Paris declaration development agenda at the country level.

World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR)

53. The WCDR in Kobe, Japan, in January 2005 resulted in adoption of the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA). The main commitments present WFP with an opportunity to continue to build on past work and to develop new initiatives in disaster-risk reduction and emergency preparedness. As a follow-up, WFP is engaged to a greater extent in coordination work to strengthen the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), which will facilitate the implementation of the HFA.

54. WFP is currently consolidating and mainstreaming its capacities in emergency preparedness and response, multi-hazard early warning and risk management. An important capacity-building effort is under way at various organizational levels, particularly at regional bureaux and country offices.

55. WFP is providing more capacity-building assistance for national governments and regional institutions in disaster preparedness and response and risk management. WFP supports the strengthening of national disaster management and response systems in areas vulnerable to seasonal hazards that can adversely impact food security, for example Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Latin America, Mozambique, southern Africa and the Sudan. WFP is also assisting the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), NEPAD and the African Union (AU) in establishing and developing emergency-preparedness and risk-management strategies and capacities.

SECTION 6. OTHER ISSUES RELEVANT TO IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TCPR

Gender Mainstreaming

56. WFP has a strong commitment to mainstreaming gender in all field operations. WFP's "Gender Policy (2003–2007): Enhanced Commitments to Women (ECW) to Ensure Food Security" has been operationalized and mainstreamed. Gender has also been mainstreamed into the main operational sectors of WFP's programmes and guidelines:

- VAM focuses on the use of sex-disaggregated data to increase the gender sensitivity of VAM analyses and improve emergency preparedness and response. Thematic guidelines – *Integrating a Gender Perspective into Vulnerability Analysis* – were released in March 2005.
- Gender was well integrated into the recent food security and nutrition assessment in Darfur, Sudan, through specific questions that investigate differences in the needs and perceptions of the sexes at the household and community levels. The Darfur mission's report will feature a chapter on demographic and gender issues. Gender was also mainstreamed into food security assessment questionnaires in Niger and Pakistan.
- In terms of accountability, gender issues are increasingly scrutinized during evaluations of WFP field programmes; gender is integrated into WFP's results-based monitoring system.

57. WFP Ghana works with Opportunities Industrialization Centres International to conduct skills training in food processing and production for women's groups associated with the WFP-

supported community health and nutrition centres (CHNCs). The training is intended to assist pregnant and lactating women in income generation to supplement and eventually substitute current WFP food rations.

⇒ *Challenges*

58. WFP relies on partners for implementation and monitoring and is frequently hindered by the lack of capacity in collecting sex-disaggregated data or providing gender-specific information. Increased efforts are required to strengthen women's control over resources, including food in emergency situations, without putting women at risk.

⇒ *Gender Balance among WFP Staff*

59. In the first semester of 2005, 28 of the 73 recruits to WFP were women, 38 percent compared with 43 percent for the same period in 2004. As at 30 September 2005, women staff members accounted for 39.9 percent of international professional staff, compared with 39.6 percent at 30 September 2004. The need to take on more women managers was highlighted to recruiting staff to reach WFP's targets of 50 percent women staff, in line with United Nations gender targets, and 50 percent of staff recruited being women. Updated statistics for 2005 will be available in the Annual Performance Report presented to the Board at its 2006 Annual Session.

Capacity-Building

60. WFP's Strategic Objective 5 is to strengthen the capacities of countries and regions to establish and manage food-assistance and hunger-reduction programmes. WFP has strengthened its policy framework and its operational focus on mainstreaming capacity-building activities and continues to participate in the undg working group on capacity development to support a harmonized approach to capacity-development at the country level.

61. During 2005, WFP began to implement projects focusing on strengthening the capacity of countries and regions to address hunger. The Latin America and Caribbean regional bureau launched several projects to strengthen analysis of acute malnutrition, response mechanisms for natural disasters and regional knowledge-sharing. WFP's southern Africa regional bureau is implementing a project to strengthen vulnerability analysis and nutritional surveillance in southern Africa. WFP continued to support capacity-development through food-aid programmes, particularly to strengthen operational capabilities and the use of community-based approaches in fighting hunger.

Transition from Relief to Development

62. The nature of WFP's assistance portfolio makes transition a major area of interest: 90 percent of the countries in which WFP was engaged in emergency operations (EMOPs) or protracted relief and recovery operations (PRROs) in 2004 were countries in transition following a conflict or an economic or natural disaster. WFP is involved in discussions on

transition at Board meetings and through UNDG, ECHA, IASC and ECOSOC and at joint meetings of the Executive Boards.

63. WFP contributed to and is benefiting from outputs of the UNDG/ECHA Working Group on Transition, for example the *Post-Conflict Needs Assessment (PCNA) Handbook*, the conflict-analysis framework and transitional results matrices. WFP works to ensure that decisions taken in these fora and new initiatives reflect its long experience and field presence in conflict-affected and transitional countries.

64. WFP strengthened its role in dealing with transition at the 2005 Joint Meeting of the Executive Boards, at which it presented the item on transition, which it will also present in 2006. WFP led a panel discussion on transition from relief to development with a focus on recovery from natural disaster during ECOSOC 2005. This role has extended to the Commission of the African Union (AUC), ECOWAS and NEPAD. WFP opened liaison offices at the AU and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in 2004 to enhance coordination between WFP and the AU, including post-conflict transitional strategy and response.

65. Innovative programme approaches in transition contexts in 2005 include the piloting of cash in lieu of food in Sri Lanka for most-vulnerable households affected by the tsunami. A drought insurance pilot project in Ethiopia was submitted to the Board in November 2005, which aims to contribute to an ex-ante risk-management system to protect vulnerable people's livelihoods from severe and catastrophic weather events.

Evaluation

66. During 2005, the Office of Evaluation (OEDE) worked on three important thematic evaluations based on country case studies: (i) targeting in relief operations; (ii) review of direct feeding by WFP in five WFP/UNHCR refugee operations, undertaken jointly with UNHCR; and (iii) review of WFP's nutrition interventions. OEDE completed the review of the UNJLC core unit and prepared a synthesis report of UNJLC reviews covering Afghanistan, Iraq and Liberia. Ten evaluations of PRROs, EMOPs and country programmes (development activities) were completed or are being completed, including a real-time evaluation of the tsunami response, which was submitted to the Board in November 2005.

67. OEDE is a member of the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG). With the evaluation offices of FAO and IFAD, it co-hosted UNEG's annual meeting in Rome on 27–29 April 2005. For the first time, UNEG gave ample attention to evaluation of humanitarian assistance as well as real-time evaluations; the latter were based on experiences of OCHA, UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP. A major landmark was the adoption of *Norms and Standards for Evaluation in the United Nations System* on 29 April 2005. OEDE is a member of the UNEG Board and co-chair of the Quality Stamp Task Group.

SECTION 7. ACTIVITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARDS

68. Members of the Executive Boards of WFP, UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF jointly visited Azerbaijan in May 2005; the visit was coordinated by the WFP Executive Board Secretariat. The purpose was to enhance Board members' understanding of the modalities and extent of the agencies' contribution to achieving the MDGs and of the ways in which they support the Government in achieving the goals. The mission recognized the success of the Azerbaijan UNCT in fostering the linkage between the MDGs and the State Programme for Poverty Reduction and Economic Development (SPPRED).

69. The President of WFP's Executive Board participated with the Deputy Executive Director for Policy and External Affairs and the Secretary to the Executive Board in the Joint Meeting of the Boards of WFP, UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF in New York in January 2005, at which WFP coordinated the item on transition from relief to development. It was stressed that UNDG should have an important role in planning and implementing activities for transition in post-conflict and post-disaster situations. The need for international financial institutions to engage with UNDG agencies in this area was also raised.

70. In March 1999, WFP embarked on a project to strengthen its governance, which included making the Board more strategic and more efficient, implemented with assistance from the Steering Group on Governance between 2000 and 2005. A final report was submitted to the Board's 2005 Second Regular Session. The issues raised included the dual parentage of WFP, involving the roles of the Board, the General Assembly, ECOSOC, the FAO Council and the FAO Conference, and dual advice and reporting lines for budgets, accounts and other matters to the United Nations and FAO, which resulted in extra costs and delays. The group recommended that these issues be addressed in due course.

ACRONYMS USED IN THE DOCUMENT

AIDS	auto-immune deficiency syndrome
ART	anti-retroviral therapy
AU	African Union
AUC	Commission of the African Union
AWP	Annual Work Plan
BWI	Bretton Woods Institutions
CAP	Consolidated Appeals Process
CCA	Common Country Assessment
CDC	Centre for Disease Control and Prevention
CHAP	Common Humanitarian Action Plan
CHNC	community health and nutrition centres
COSV	<i>Comitato di Coordinamento delle Organizzazioni per il Servizio Volontario</i>
CP	country programme
CPAP	Country Programme Action Plan
DPRK	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
ECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
ECHA	Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs
ECOSOC	United Nations Economic and Social Council
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
ECW	Enhanced Commitments to Women
EFA	Education for All
EMOP	emergency operation
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations
FEWS-NET	Famine Early-Warning System Network
FFE	food for education
FFT	food for training
FFW	food for work
GAIN	Green Afghanistan Initiative

HC	humanitarian coordinator
HEWS	humanitarian early-warning system
HFA	Hyogo Framework for Action
HGSFP	Home Grown School Feeding Programme
HIV	human immuno-deficiency virus
IAAH	International Alliance Against Hunger
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IDP	internally displaced person
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ISDR	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
JAM	joint assessment mission
JFFLS	junior farmer field and life schools
MCH	mother-and-child health
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MOU	memorandum of understanding
NAF	needs analysis framework
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGO	non-governmental organization
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OEDE	Office of Evaluation
PCNA	post-conflict needs assessment
PDE	External Relations Division
PDR	People's Democratic Republic
PLWHA	people living with HIV/AIDS
PMTCT	prevention of mother-to-child transmission
PRRO	protracted relief and recovery operation

PRSP	Poverty-Reduction Strategy Paper
RAAAP	rapid assessment, analysis and action planning
RC	Resident Coordinator
RCIG	Resident Coordinator issues group
RDT	Regional Director's team
S&H	simplification and harmonization
SMART	standardized monitoring and assessment of relief and transitions
SPPRED	State Programme for Poverty Reduction and Economic Development
SWAPs	sector-wide approaches
TCPR	Triennial Comprehensive Policy Review
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCT	United Nations country team
UNDAC	United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEG	United Nations Evaluation Group
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHAS	United Nations Humanitarian Air Service
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNJLC	United Nations Joint Logistics Centre
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAM	vulnerability analysis and mapping
WCDR	World Conference on Disaster Reduction
WHO	World Health Organization
